

Abstract

The device includes a stereoscopic image recording device having at least one optical sensor (3, 4) which records the scene at the vehicle seat (2) and derives from that a three-dimensional map, partitioned into a plurality of zones, giving for each zone its distance from a reference point. In order to make possible reliable recognition of the manner of the seat's occupation, even during great fluctuations of light intensity, the at least one optical sensor (3, 4) has a nonlinear characteristic curve, describing the correlation between the incident light intensity (L) and its electrical output signal (U, I), whose characteristic curve steepness decreases with increasing light intensity (L).

(Figures 1, 4)

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